SNAP

We've spent five days visiting realtors, and we still haven't found anything good yet.
This isn't the time for photos.

Can't you smile a little more, Haruto-kun?
Your face is blank!
Why are you playing around, anyway?
Why not?

We need to take breaks sometimes.

Anyway, don't you think you're worrying too much, Haruto-kun?
I think we found a few decent places.
W-Well, yeah...

But if I'm going to be living there for a few years...
GIGGLE
Are you sure you're not just being indecisive?

...I don't want to compromise so easily!
Shut up!
Come on, let's go!!
Hey, wait, Haruto-kun!

#145: PICTURES

It's a 17-year-old building and a 15-minute walk from the station.
...
Rent's fifty thousand, including service fees.
BLESSINGS
Would you like to take a look inside?
Ah... Yes.
That sounds like a good deal, doesn't it?
Yeah.

CLICK
The setting sun might be a little intense, but it's a corner room.
The restroom and bath are their own rooms.

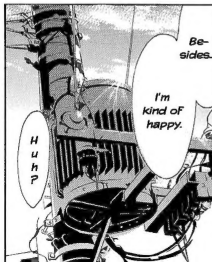
What do you think?
You can move in right away.
Hmmm.
RUSTLINGS

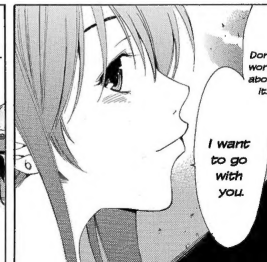
Y-Yeah.
You couldn't make up your mind today, either.
WHOOSH
Was the place we looked at first really that bad?
I thought it seemed pretty nice.
Well...

...Sorry.

It wasn't bad...
but I thought I could find an even better place if I kept looking...
What? You really are just indecisive.

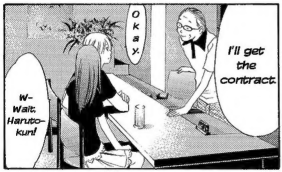
Eh?
You've been coming with me every day, despite the heat.
You're probably getting tired, too.

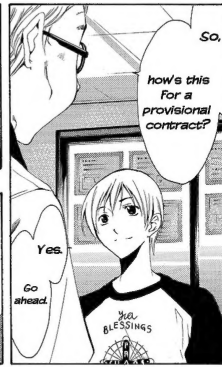

Huh?
I'm kind of happy.
Be-sides...

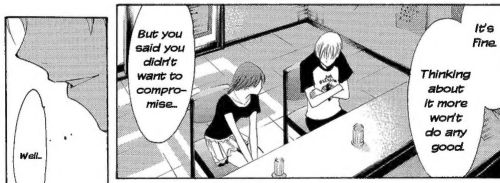

I want to go with you.
Don't worry about it.

I get to be with you every day...
...while you're looking for a place.
W-Well...
I'm glad for that, too...
...Is something wrong?
No...
Um...
I... I think I'll go with the first place we saw today, after all!!
I'll do it!!
What?! Where did that come from?!

SIGN: HATASHO REAL ESTATE







I was just scared.
Huh?
Like you said, there were a few places I thought were okay, but...
I don't know...
This'll be my first time living on my own.
I couldn't make up my mind...
I'm pretty sure...
不動産

Besides, I don't want to drag you around any more than I have.

What?

...

Haruto-kun...

Your feet must've hurt.

Sorry...

I... I'm fine! It's just a little shoe sore!

Anyway, it's not as though you have to move...

What?!

Oh... I...

No. I have to.
I can't move forward if I stay there.
...
Well, don't worry about it.
I'll get used to it soon.
カラン
CLINK
O-Okay...
Have your co-signer sign and stamp here, and then mail us the contract.
Ah- Okay.
Um...
I'm sorry, but could we see the room again?
CLATTER
What? Uh, sure...

If you're going to be living there, I want to take a proper look...
...at your home.
What? Is something bothering you?
No, it's not like that.

...?
Oh...

The bath's so small.
Your legs are too long to stretch out.
I don't mind.
Are you sure?

Chef Kirishima, make us a omelshiny. I'm hungry.
I want meat and potatoes!!
I'm home!
Haruto, is dinner ready?!

Haruto, you're sleeping in a sleeping bag?!
You're living here with Aoi-san? I'm so jealous!!

...

Haruto-kun, come here!

Look! The bath-room mirror.

Huh?

Ah.

I put the picture up!

Well?
It's not so lonely now, right?
Th-This isn't my fault.
I still only have a provisional contract, and you went and did this.
I don't care. I'm not the one who'll get in trouble.
...Eba.
Is this why she_
INGS
Sheesh.

GRIP
Well.
Thanks.
Not at all.
You're welcome.

A town where you live
Well. I'm heading out.
Take care, Haruto-kun. You can always stop by if you need anything.
Meow!
I will. Thank you.
What am I going to do?
The apartment's going to get dirty again with you gone.
If you're going to complain about it, then clean it up.
No way!

What?
I'm going to dinner with Asuka-chan after this, anyway.
Well, good luck to you.
If you're worried about my room, you can come back to clean it anytime.
...
Sure...
Well...
Thanks for having me!
女将
湯

君のいる町

#146: DAY OF DEPARTURE

Mamoru-kun, I put up the curtains

Sorry, I put up the wrong ones!!

Huh?
Isn't that where the lace curtains go?
Ah!!

This sure is a meager apartment, though.

I came to see your new place.
Shut up.
If you're here to help, do something.

No... I didn't...
What's with the picture in the bathroom?
Just how happy are you?

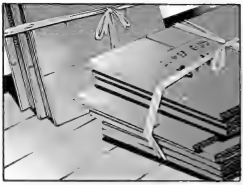
The Kanda River's just outside your window...
You're like a struggling Showa Era student.

You can be with my sister until just before her curfew.
What are you planning on doing at night?
Don't you think a five-minute walk from our place is a little close?
You're so naughty, Haruto-san.
WHAT?
_?!
The bath's a little small, so you can't take one together.
You... Quit spouting nonsense..
Nothing, you idiot!!
There you go again.

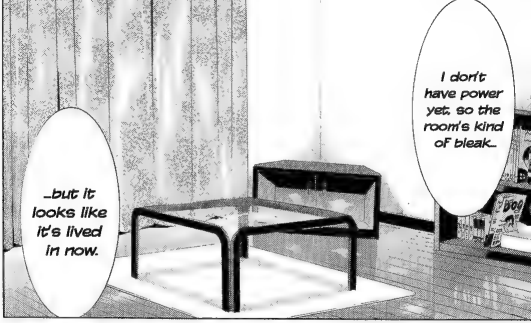
How small the bath is.
What are you talking about?
Go home already!!
?
Haruto-san is so mean to you.
Ah... You think so, too, Rin?
This un-air conditioned room is so hot. I'm going to die.
Okay, okay. You don't need to tell me to leave.
The bath is small, isn't it?
I'll get out of your way.
Have Fun!
バターン
SLAM

They keep going on about stupid stuff...
Who cares about the bath?
...
What?
Er...
Um...

The bath's plenty big!!
Whoa.
Oh, really.



Whew.
Well, that should do it.

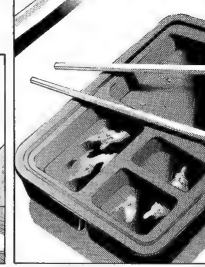

I don't have power yet, so the room's kind of bleak...
...but it looks like it's lived in now.

You must be hungry after all that work.
Let's have lunch together.

Haruto-kun, I bought dinner.
CLICK
Oh, thanks.

Yeah.

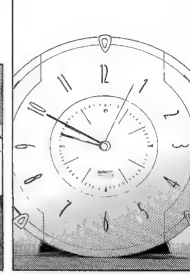
Huh?
You didn't need to do that.



You could've eaten at home.
You didn't need to buy me dinner from the convenience store and eat it with me.

Ha ha! It's a little plain for a celebration.
I can't help that. All the bakeries are closed at this hour.

But it's your first day living here.
I want to celebrate it with you!



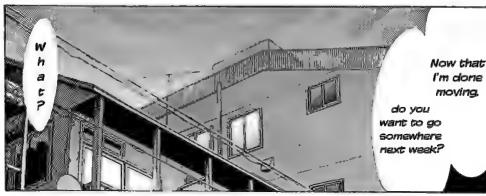
I'll walk you home.
It's dangerous to go alone this late.

...Sorry.
I need to go soon.
CLATTER
Oh, right. Your curfew's at 10:00.

I'll be fine. There are still a lot of people around.
Don't worry about me.
Are you sure?
Yeah.

...Oh.
Right.

カチャ
CLICK
See you later.


What?
Now that I'm done moving, do you want to go somewhere next week?

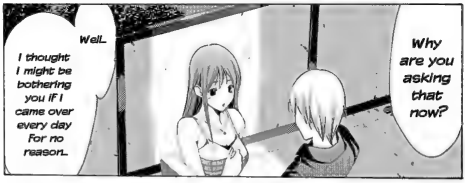
I thought it'd be nice once in a while.
We haven't gone anywhere since we got back together

Next week?

...No.
It's not that...

Huh? Did you have something planned?
...

Can I...
...come over here tomorrow?
What?

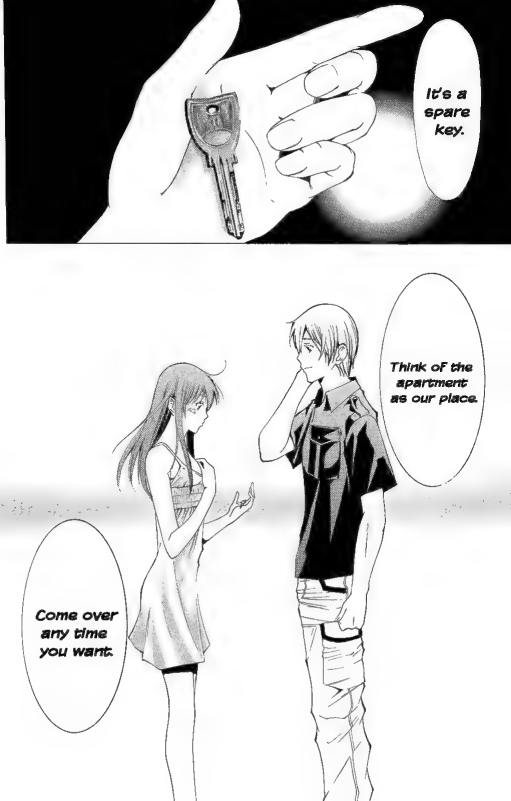

Why are you asking that now?
Well... I thought I might be bothering you if I came over every day for no reason...

201
桐島
...

Here.
You can have this.

Don't worry about little things like that...
B-But!

Huh?


It's a spare key.
Think of the apartment as our place.
Come over any time you want.

I want you to come, Eba...
In fact...
...
Okay!

Can I come over, too?
?!
After all...
I'm an Eba, too.
Rin.
when did you...
Around the time Haruto-san said he wouldn't let you go home tonight.
I never said that!!

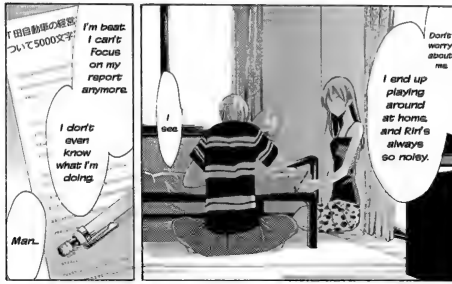
A town where you live

#147: LOVE SONG

RING
Summer's in Tokyo are so hot.
If the air conditioner doesn't arrive soon, I'm gonna die.
FLAP
FLAP

They can't help it. Appliance stores are always busy this time of year.
You should be glad your refrigerator came.
Well... Yeah.

You don't need to write your report here with me, though.
Wouldn't you get more done if you worked at home?


Don't worry about me.
I end up playing around at home, and Rin's always so noisy.
I see.
I'm beat. I can't focus on my report anymore.
I don't even know what I'm doing.
Man...

A little bit of sweating's good for your body, you know.
BA-DUMP
Hold on. I'll go make you some cold tea.
CHIRP CHIRP
O.. Okay..
CHIRP

カラン
CLINK

This
Feels...
...kind of
weird...

Hm

I feel a lot more nervous now...
...than I did when we were going out before.

JUMP
What's wrong?
N-
Nothing!

But your face is so red.
Are you still hot?

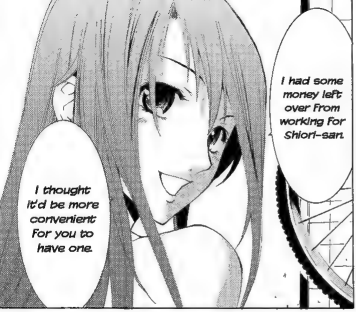
Y-
Yeah.
But more than that...

Well...
...Etsu's gotten a lot prettier.

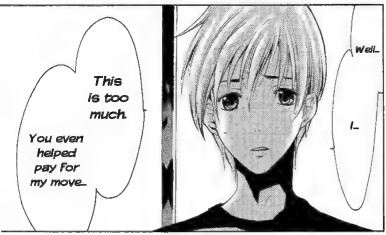
More than back then...
FLAP
I'm done!!
Good work. I just finished, too.
Yeah.
about Japanese poems.
Mostly love poems.
Oh?
Japanese poems? I'm surprised you finished such a difficult report.
It's not that hard. They're actually pretty interesting.
You looked like you were struggling. What kind of report was it?
It's for your literature course, right?

...
I see.
They're mostly sad poems describing one-sided love, though.
Huh?
Anyway, why don't we go out? It's cooled down outside.
Sure.
Where do you want to go?
I reserved something special.

SIGN: NINOMIYA BICYCLES


I had some money left over from working for Shiori-san.
I thought it'd be more convenient for you to have one.

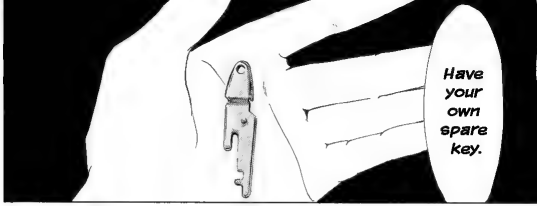
That'll be twelve thousand yen.
Here.
Hey...
I...


Well...
I...
This is too much.
You even helped pay for my move...

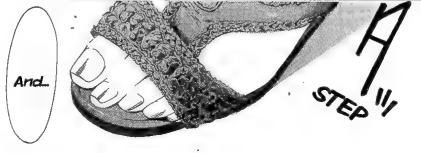
I tried to get one like the one you rode in Hiroshima...
How is it?

Here.
Huh?

Don't get the wrong idea.
CLICK

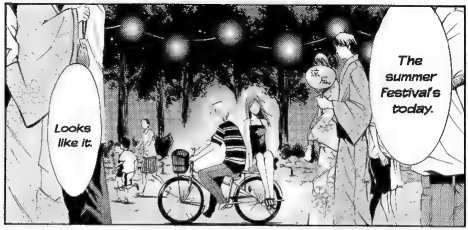

Have your own spare key.

This is our bicycle.


And...
STEP 4

This seat is reserved for me.
What's wrong? You're spacing out...
Huh?!
Um...

BOOM
BOOM
BOOM


The summer festival's today.
Looks like it.

It's so pretty.
I'm glad we came.

...
Yeah.

...
N-
No!
Seriously, what's wrong? You've been acting weird all day.
Do you have heat stroke?

I'm not...
um...
If you're worried about something, tell me.
I'm your girlfriend, Haruto-kun.

What?
Sure.
Hey...
Can I ask you something stupid?

Those poems you were writing your report on.
You said they were all about one-sided love...
Well...
Yes.

...?
After?

So...
...what comes after that?

Y-You know,
maybe their wish comes true and they fall in love with each other.
Yeah.
Uh... And once they start going out, they,
um...

How are you supposed to tell someone...
...if you love them even more than before...?

Huh...?
...
...
Wh... Who knows...
I...
...don't think there were any poems like that...
R-Really?!
Sorry for asking something so weird, then!
...
Maybe your literature professor would know.

What?
?!
BA-DUMP
Think on it, Professor Kirishima.

...then tell me, okay?
If you figure it out...

Why, you...
I can hardly wait!
If I figure it out...
Sure...
...

Yeah. I should at least greet the people next door.
Neighbors?
It's only normal.
You're so thoughtful!
Do you want to come with me?
Hmmm.
Sure, but they might think we're living together.
Never mind. I'll go by myself.

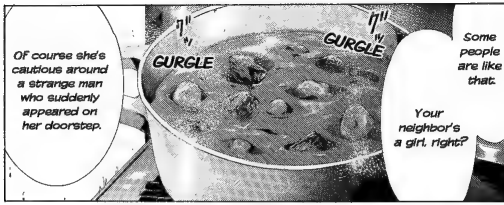
#148: THE NEIGHBOR

202
保科
ピンポーン
DING DONG
Ho-shina-san, huh?
Wonder what she's like
カチャ
click
Huh?
Maybe she's not home...

Who is it...?
Hi! I just moved in next door. I'm Kiri-shima.
Nice to meet you.
It's not much, but...
RUSTLE
...

...bother me anymore.
Please don't...
What?
No, thank you.
Huh?
W-Well, I'm going in now.
SLAM
Wait... You forgot this!
CLICK
...

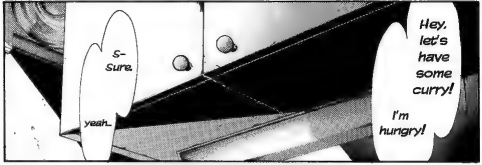
Ah...
What a hard world we live in.
In the desert of Tokyo.
The concrete jungle...
GIGGLE
There you go again.
It must've really been a shock.
No...
I'm not shocked. I just can't believe her attitude!!


GURGLE
GURGLE
Some people are like that.
Your neighbor's a girl, right?
Of course she's cautious around a strange man who suddenly appeared on her doorstep.

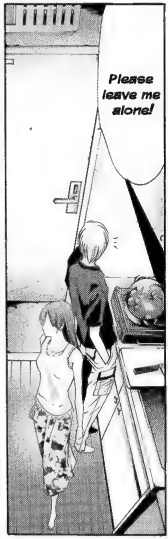
But I wasn't bothering her.
I don't understand.
GRUMBLE GRUMBLE
I just went to give her a gift...

...
People from Tokyo are no good.
They're so cold.
TOUCH

Well?
Am I cold?
No…
N…
Good, then!
STIR
STIR
You're different…
You're my girlfriend…
I'm from Tokyo, you know.


Hey, let's have some curry!
I'm hungry!
S-Sure.
yeah...

What was that?
I don't know.


Please leave me alone!

It sounded like it came from right outside.
Maybe something happened to your neighbor.

Just ignore it.
It's probably just a newspaper vendor.
She'll just say I'm bothering her if I go out again.
But it might be a serious incident!
At least take a look!!
H-Hey, don't push me!
CLICK
カチャ

Just let me in for a little while.
Let's watch a DVD together.
保科
Please stop.
You said you would just give me a ride.
Why don't we go for dinner instead?!
I bet you're hungry!!
I'm not going!
It looks like she's in trouble!
Excuse me.
Is there a problem?
STEP

Should I call the police?

You seem to be arguing about something.

What... The cops?!

Shut up...

...I knew you'd go.

Sorry, it's nothing!!

Um...

Thank...
you...
You live with your girl-friend?
Huh?
Oh, she's my girlfriend.
but she just happened to stop by today...
Nice to meet you.
I'm Yuzuki Eba.
If you haven't eaten yet, would you like to eat dinner with us?
We'd like that.
Huh?
What?!

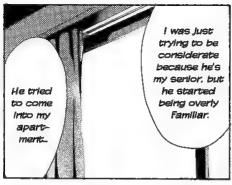
You just met her! You can't...
Listen, you!
Wait here.
I'll get it ready For you.
Okay.
She came!!
By the way, Hoshina-san, how old are you?
I'm... 19.
I began attending Seijo College last spring.
Huh?

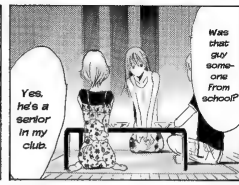
What? Why is she acting like this?!
So... what?
You did?
I go to Seijo, too!

N-Nice to meet you...
That's what my friends call me...
Ah... Call me Miyu.

...makes friends so easily.
She always...

We're the same age.
I hope we can be friends, Hoshina-san.


I was just trying to be considerate because he's my senior, but he started being overly familiar.
He tried to come into my apartment...


Was that guy someone from school?
Yes. he's a senior in my club.

That's not true.
There are plenty of normal guys.

What?!

Okay.
I-In any case, let's eat!
It won't be good when it's cold.

I went to girls' schools for middle and high school...
...so I wonder if all men are like that.

But...
...Haruto-kun is a genuinely good person.
Huh?
He is... kind and dependable...
He has... ...saved me plenty of times.
Eba...
IF anything comes up, you can talk to Haruto-kun.
IF anything happens again.
Okay.

...
W-Well, you don't have to force yourself.
CLINK
I probably can't do that much to help you...
But... I'd appreciate it if you'd talk to me.
Huh?
I just moved here, and I'm feeling a little uneasy...
I'd be glad to...
...have another friend.

What?!
...
S-See? I knew it...!
I'm not saying anything weird, am I?!
This is my apartment!!
I'll have Yuzuki-chan help me. Please leave.
I-It's fine.
No, that was you...!

CLANG
カン
CLANG
カン
From 枝葉 耀 Rin Eba
Sub (non title)
ちょっと手伝って欲しい
ことがあるので10時に
駅前のBIG BOXまで来て
もらえませんか？
I need your help with
something.
姉さんと二人で待って
ますから。
Can you come to the BIGBOX
near the station at 10:00?
I'll be waiting with my
sister.
CLANG
カン
Translation Note: BIGBOX is a commercial building with shops, restaurants, and entertainment.
Eba didn't mention anything when I saw her yesterday...
I wonder what she wants help with.
CLAP
CREAK

Ah.
Hey, Hoshina.
Are you going somewhere, too?
Why would you ask that...?
Uh...
Just because...
Leave me alone, then!!
CREAK
Ah.

A town where you live

#149: SWIMSUIT SURPRISE

You lied?
Yup.
I mean, you wouldn't come unless I told you my sister was coming, too, right?
Well... What are you planning that you needed to lie for?
Shopping.
I don't want to carry my bags in this heat, so I called you, Haruto-san.
What?! You want me to carry your bags?!
I told my sister, so don't worry.
BIG BOX

This place is close enough to home.
You should get some exercise...
POUT
I hate exercise more than anything!
Plus...
...I want your help with something besides carrying bags.

SIGN: SPORTSWEAR
スポーツウェア
SUZUKA'S

I'm going to the pool with some friends next week.
I thought I'd ask for your opinion.
HUH?
What?
Are you going with a boy-friend?
You idiot.
I don't know.
RUSTLE
Would you be jealous if I were?
Why would I be...
No way. I want to show them the day we go to the pool.
Just do this with them.

How's this?
SWISH
D-Don't...
?!
Don't you think you're exposing too much...?
Oh?
You think so?

!!

Do you really think so?

You moron!!

You're practically naked in that swimsuit!!

Don't you like it, though?

スポーツウェア

Just pick something else!!

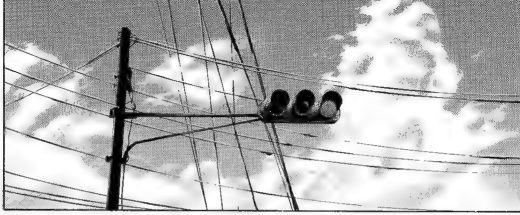
What?

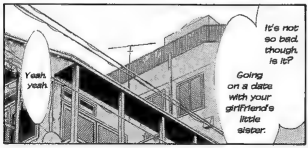
That one's no good!!

...

_!!

_!!




Yeah, yeah.
It's not so bad, though, is it?
Going on a date with your girlfriend's little sister.

Thanks.
I got a cute swimsuit thanks to you.
Yeah, right. You rejected all my opinions.

Here.
You can carry it yourself the rest of the way.
What? We're so close. Carry it all the way.
A.VINM
CREAK

Oh.

Hoshina, did you just get home?

RATTLE RATTLE

...

RATTLE RATTLE

She's my neighbor.

Who is that?

Ho-shi-na.

the girl a-

I knew all men were the same.

You're the worst.

I feel bad for Yuzuki-chan.

What?

...

Ch-
Cheat?!

...

Why would you cheat on her?!

You have such a wonderful girlfriend!!

H-Hey, wait!!

Yuzuki-chan trusts you so much-

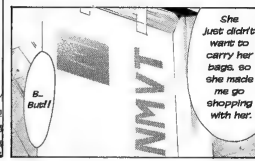
You're awful!!

...

This is Eba's little sister!!

HUH?

I saw!!
I saw the two of you choosing swimsuits together!
Just because she's your girlfriend's sister, you shouldn't do that!


She just didn't want to carry her bags, so she made me go shopping with her.
B... but!

...

I'm going to the pool with my boyfriend soon.
I wanted to surprise him with a cute swimsuit.
Haruto-san's the only boy I know.
I wanted his opinion.

I'm sorry. It's my Fault.
Huh?

Haruto-san and my sister make a good couple.
...
I'd never get in their way.

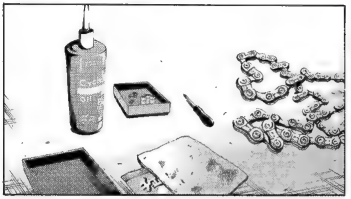
O-Okay
Thanks for carrying my bags for me.
I can take it from here.
You're really going with your boyfriend, huh?
What?
I don't have a boyfriend.
I was lying. Don't worry.
Hey!
STEP
Thanks for today!!
What?
Think of it as a favor. You should be grateful.
Favor, my ass.
This is all her fault...
Um...

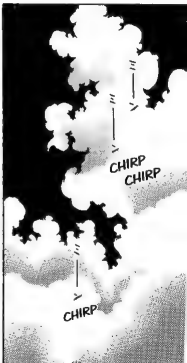
I'm sorry...
I... misunderstood, and said some terrible things...
B... But...
Hey, is your bike okay?
Don't worry about it.
Anyone would be confused.
Huh... My bicycle?
Ah...I thought so.
It's not oiled at all.
No wonder it squeaks so much.

I don't know much about that kind of thing...
What should I do?

What?! I don't want that!!
You might puncture one or break your chain.
Your tires are flat, too...

...Wait here. I bought some stuff from a bike store recently.




CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP

カチャ
カチャ
CLICK
CLICK

Um...
I thought you were just going to oil it.
Yeah, but if I don't clean this first, it'll make the oil dirty.
I see.
WIPE
Um...
STEP
Why are you doing this for me?
...
Oh.
I see.
This'll take a while, so why don't you go up to your room? It must be hot out here.
RUSTLE
I... I'm fine. I'd feel bad...
In that case, stand in the shade.
Huh?
CLICK CLICK
Just because.

Haruto-kun is a genuinely good person.
He's kind...
...and dependable.

I...
I seem to have had the wrong idea about you...
Huh?
There really are people...
...like you, Kirishima-san.
CLICK
Hello.
Huh?
CLACK
It's so hot out.
...Do you know her?
Yeah, she's in my department at school.
I bought you some ice cream to celebrate your move.
ICE!
Oh, right. I wanted to ask you a favor.
Do you think...

You...
...you could go to a love hotel with me again?
I want to take some pictures.
What does she mean?
Well...
Um...
I knew it.
You're that kind of person after all...
I-I'm not! I'm helping her...
How are you helping her by taking pictures in a love hotel?!
You're awful!
It's not like that!!

CHATTER
CHATTER
I'll really bring my sister this time!
My friends can't go to the pool anymore, so would you like to go with me, Haruto-san?
Don't you want to see her in a swimsuit?
I don't care about seeing harm a swimsuit.
CHIRP
CHIRP
...but we haven't gone on a real date yet...
Thanks for watching!

#150: POOL DATE

...

Ah!

Sorry!!

"WHIP"

It's embarrassing when you stare so much.

Um...

You're one to talk

Hey!

You didn't need to mention that!

You were the one asking, "I wonder if Haruto-kun will call my swimsuit cute"

FPOOL

...

You don't need to say it!
GIGGLE GIGGLE
Um...
I think...
it's really...
cute...
uh...

What are you talking about? We're friends!
The more, the merrier.

Um... Are you sure it was okay for me to come?
You know... because I'm an outsider.
Huh?

O...
Okay...
Hey, why aren't you taking off your T-shirt?
You can't get in the pool like that.
Ah... I'm fine.
I'm happy just looking... um...
Do you...
AHA

WHUMP!!

BOINNG!!

What are you doing?!

I knew you had huge boobs!!

You should show those off!!

Wha_?!

Owwww!!
SQUEEZE

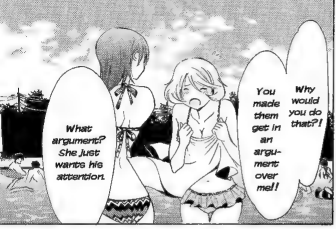
Haruto-san got a good look.
Huh?
Th-That's because you ripped off her clothes!

つん
POUT

Ah~
Eba!
DASH
I'm going to ride the water slide.

Um~
That is~

Hey!!
Wait! I'll go with you!!


What argument? She just wants his attention.
You made them get in an argument over me!!
Why would you do that?!

...

Look.

Don't worry about them.
Let's go play.
Ah..

Make sure you hold on tight.
Next guests, please.
Ah... Okay.
I ended up coming with her, but...
...we're sitting closer than I expected...

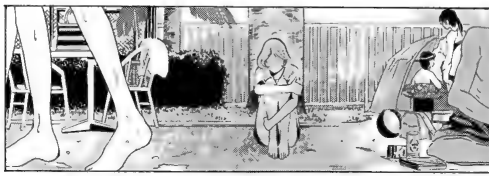
It's okay.
Your feet will touch the bottom.
I'm not...
uh...
...worried about that...
Here we go.
SPLISH
Whoa!!
What is this?! It's faster than I thought!!
WHOOSHTTT
Ah!
SLIP
Watch out!!

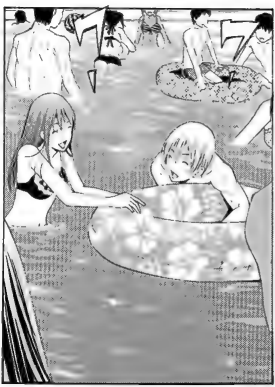
No...!!
Whoa!!
S-Sorry.
That's not what I...
SLIP
WHACK
SPLOOSH

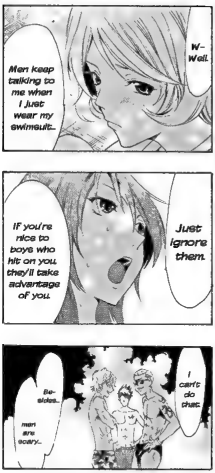
SPLASH!!!
Cough!!
プカ
FLOAT
A-Are you okay, Eba!?
GIGGLE GIGGLE
クスクス
..Eba?
Ha ha!
This has happened before, hasn't it?!
Huh.. Really?
A long time ago, in Hiro-shima..

It's like the time we fell into the rice field riding on a bike.
Oh, right...
I thought I had really died...
It's been three years...
...but we haven't changed at all.
Y-You sure?
...
I think my feelings...
...have changed quite a bit.
...

Have you figured out the answer to your question about poems?
Kiri-shima-sensei?
You…
Forget about that!!
Aw…






You're not going to swim anymore?
You put your T-shirt back on.
Rin-chan.
"..."
W-Well.
Men keep talking to me when I just wear my swimsuit...
Just ignore them.
If you're nice to boys who hit on you they'll take advantage of you.
I can't do that.
Be-sides...
men are scary...
Why don't you get a boy-friend?
Boys won't approach you then.
I... I'm scared of men...

Wh..What do you mean!?
Kirishima-san has Yuzuki-chan!!

How about Haruto-san?
He's not scary at all.
W h a t ?!

Besides, you said you support their relation-ship!
You shouldn't say that!!

Of course. Haruto-san is deeply in love with my sister.
It'd be impossible to get him now.
...

Think about it.
Most men worth dating already have girlfriends, don't you think?

Kirishima-san loves Yuzuki-chan.
...She's right.
...attention to me...
He'd never pay...
Take care, you two.
Yeah.
I had fun, too.
Haruto-san, we're leaving now.
Thanks for today.

I'll text you
Okay?
Sure.
Well, then...
Shall we go home, Hoshina?
Ah... Okay.
I'm exhausted from all that exercise.
I bet I'll have no trouble getting to sleep tonight.
Y-Yes...
Ah... I'll have to get up early for work.
Hope I can.
...
Of course. Haruto-san is deeply in love with my sister.
It'd be impossible to get him now.

Hm?
Um…
Could I…
…visit your apartment now?
Huh?

Could I_
...visit your apartment now?
I want to...
...ask you for a favor.
WHOOSH
Huh?
It's not okay?
It's not that... What's gotten into you?

君のいる町
#151: POOL AGAIN?!

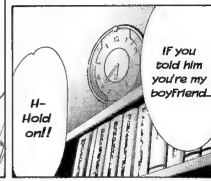
カチャ
CLICK
Well…
Sign: Kirishima
201
桐島
I'm so sorry to intrude…
Uh…
Come in.

Underage drinking is forbidden by law.

Don't drink that!!
GULP
...!!
But...
I...
I couldn't ask you for this favor without some liquid courage.
Is it really that hard to say?
HACK HACK
This is disgusting!!
See? You were lying.
W-Well, just try asking.
I can't help you if you don't.

SQUEEZE
Huh?
W-
Well...
While we're at college-
...will you pretend to be my boyfriend?
-Wha?
I've been approached by an upper-classman ever since I entered college.
No matter how many times I turn him down, he won't give up-

I want you to be my boyfriend...
Why do I have this feeling of deja vu...


H-Hold on!!
If you told him you're my boyfriend...

If you still won't do it, I won't make you...
Ah...I I don't mind if you tell Yuzuki-chan, of course!!

Um...
I got in a fight with Eba over that same favor before.
Huh?
I don't think I could do it again...

I-In that case...
Well... I know she'd say yes if I explained the situation to her.

But...

I don't want to do it.
I don't want to do anything she wouldn't like.
Sorry, but I don't think I can.
GULP
Hey!!

Well... I did, but...
You said you would help me, Kirishima-san!!
I told you not to drink that!
But!
Why don't you ask someone else in your club?
It doesn't have to be me.
Oh...
He started acting overly friendly and tried to come into my apartment!!
Huh?
I tried that!!
That must've been what happened the other day...
保健

I asked you because I thought...
...you only had eyes for Yuzuki-chan...
I can't take it anymore!!
I can't go to college next term!!
Hey, don't cry.
No!! Don't touch me!!
SLAP
Ugh!!
Waaaah!
She's awful...
Just go home.
You're a little too drunk.
...

Oh good. She's going home

WHEW

I'm going to the pool again.

...I'm hot.

I didn't swim at all today.

What?

The pool isn't open at...

What are you talking about?!

SWAY

...!

!!
SPURT
Huh?
It's clearly underwear!!
Y-You idiot, don't take off your clothes in here!!
It's okay. I'm wearing a swimsuit underneath.
SLAP
Hurk!!
What are you looking at, you pervert?!

...P!

What?!
What am I doing in Kirishima-san's...
WHUMP
DOOM
...No.
201
柯島
You're so cruel, Kirishima-san!!
BAM
I can't believe you'd do this!!
NOOOOO!!

Huh?
ROLL
ROLL
Argh!!
BAM
What was that for?!
Open the door slowly!!
What... Why were you...
Can't you tell?
I was sleeping.
What are you doing..?
K-Kirishima-san..

...

You threw a fit when I tried to put your clothes back on.

You're a real violent drunk.

You got drunk and started taking off your clothes.

You fell asleep in my bed.

The pool?!

You said you were going to the pool.

I... I did that...?

Label: Stomach Medicine

Huh?

Here

...

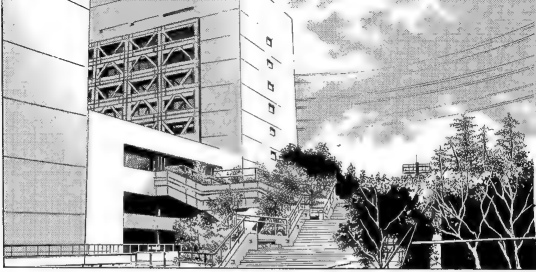
Ah!
CLICK
See you later.
I've got work, so I'm going to bathe and change.

Sorry I couldn't help you.
Um... I'm sorry.
Oh... By the way...

Huh?
I'll do as much as I can to help you as a friend.
Let me know IF you ever need anything.

Ah.
Okay.
バタン
SLAM
Most men worth dating...
...already have girlfriends.
Yuzuki-chan...
CHIRP
CHIRP CHIRP
...is so lucky...

#152: MISUNDERSTANDING



So you haven't seen Yuzuki-chan much lately.
Huh.

Yeah.
That's sort of odd. You only live a five minute walk away from each other.

On top of that, she told me she's busy and can't come over this weekend.

Yeah, it's been difficult since classes started.
I don't get off work until 11:00, either.
Saturday and Sunday are the only days I can see her.

Hello!
Is Yuzuki-chan here today?
Even IF she could come over, recently...
SLURP
CLINK
Did you have a fight?
No...
Well, it's nothing.
...?
We can't get any time alone together, since she's always coming over...
Eba seems to be enjoying herself, so I can't really complain.
Sigh.
I've got class.
CLATTER
Ah... Don't forget to take notes for me.
Yeah, yeah
It's just... why does she have to come over on those days?
IF Hoshina wants to hang out with her, she can do it another day.

I told you, I won't go out with you!
Liar! Introduce me to your boyfriend.
then I'll give up IF you do.
It's true! I really do have one!!

Hoshina...

STEP
Huh?
...!!

H-He's my boyfriend!!
DRAG
Uh...
Huh?

Why, you...
But...!!

You're the one hitting on Hoshina Ichihara-senpai!?
Wh-What's going on?!
...dating her?!
You're...
SQUEEZE
Uh...
Um...

So, as her friend...
Ah... I see.
In that case...

SHOVE
No... We're friends.

She's really upset about it.
Please stop bothering Hoshina.

What's wrong with you? You don't have to be so serious.
What...

Kiri-shi-ma-san...
...

F-Fine, then.
...
Please.
Maybe I'll go hit on some girls.
Man.
...
But to make up for it, buy me lunch sometime.
No way.
Why not, you cheap-skate?!
You need to be able to say that much yourself.
Yes...
Ah...
カアア
BLUSH

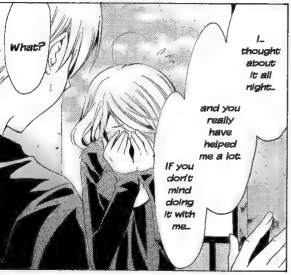
I'm sorry...
All I do is bother you...
It's fine.
Don't worry about it.
...
No...
Please let me thank you!
Is there anything troubling you?
Well...
I can't do anything about that.
I know that.
Something troubling me?
Well, I haven't seen much of Eba lately...
Is there anything else?
I could do simple tasks or odd jobs.
Hmm.
Simple tasks, huh?

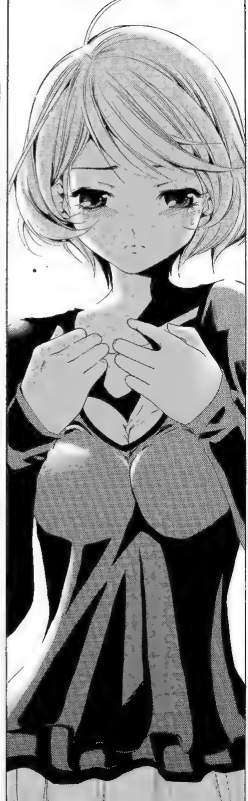
Now that you mention it, it's been building up.
I want to do it, but I've been so busy lately with school and work...
What?
Well, I can't ask you to do that.
It's nothing.
I don't have work tomorrow, so I'll do it then.
STEP STEP
...
THUMP THUMP
He can't see Yuzuki-chan...
so he can't do it, even if he wants to...
But it's building up.
THUMP THUMP
so he has to do it himself...

WHAT?!
It's a lot of work, but it needs to be done.
Well, then...
WHUMP
DING DONG
Who could it be this early in the morning...
Yes?
CLICK
BLESS

Huh...
Hoshina. Eba's not coming today.
I...
I know...

What...
Then...


What?
I... thought about it all right...
and you really have helped me a lot.
If you don't mind doing it with me...



Sign: Kirishima

What a weird girl.
Just how much preparation does she need to do some laundry?
...Okay.
Well... excuse me then...
Sure.
STEP
I...
...I was mistaken.
Huh?
It even happens to someone as proper as you...
I suppose men just can't help it...
I guess not.
Most guys are probably like that.
You're right.
I under-stand.
Let's keep this secret from Yuzuki-chan.

What...
Is it really that bad?
OF course it is!!

Also...
...

We mustn't do that!!
Ha ha! I don't mind IF you tell her about it.
BLESSINGS
CHAOS

What?! You've never even done it once?!
Just how much of a spoiled 19-year-old princess are you?!

It's...
my first time...
Don't think I'd do this for just anyone.

B-But I'll do my best!!
I might not be very good at it, but IF you'll teach me...
...!!
There's nothing to teach. You just put it in and spin it.
Put it in and...
s-spin it?! Spin it?!
...It would've been faster to do it myself...
Seems like...
That's how it goes...
Ah... yes...
Huh?!!!
Well...
We can start with just jackets.
I'll do underwear myself.
SHUFFLE SHUFFLE
Um...
Ah... Maybe I'll ask you to do my T-shirts.
PLOP
Let's get this done, Hoshina.

..Okay.
Please take off my under-wear..
What?!
?!!
ゴーン
BONG
What are you doing?!
W-What am I..
You said it yourself!
Are you drunk again?!
..you wanted to, um.. to do it..
I-It was building up, so..
...!!
...

Huh?
You moron!!
I was talking about my laundry!!
BLUSH
What are you talking about?!
You should've said so in the first place, you idiot!
You're the one who confused yourself!!
With the way you said it, anyone would have...
Huh? Your door's unlocked again.
...?
CLICK

Let's go shop...
Haruto-san.
Ah.
BLESSINGS
Wah!! Don't phrase it like that!!
Th-This isn't what it looks like!! It's all Kirishima-san's fault!!
You're surprisingly aggressive, Miyu-san.
Oh?

#153: Relocation?!

Okay.
I get it.

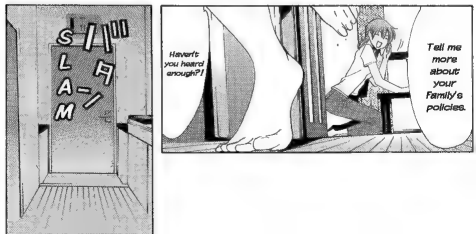
Hoping for some action, Haruto-san intentionally phrased his request ambiguously...
...and Miyu-san excitedly jumped at the chance and took off her clothes, pretending to be confused, right?

Really?! Are you sure you understand?!
You need to!!
Yeah, yeah.

Anyway, even if you were just confused, isn't there something wrong with you?
You're completely wrong!!

Even IF you wanted to thank him...
...why would you do that to a guy with a girlfriend?
I-It's my family's policy!!
We don't turn down any requests from people who helped us!!
....
Oh?

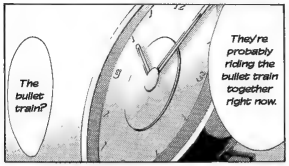
Anyway, that's that!!
Don't say anything weird to Yuzuki-chan!
Ah... Miyu-san!
STOMP STOMP

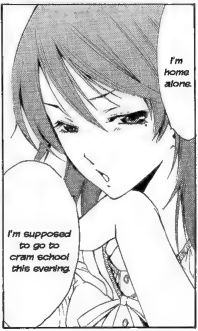

Tell me more about your family's policies.
Haven't you heard enough?!
SLAM

...
That can't be right!
She's definitely interested in you.
Huh... Well, I'm going to do my laundry.
By the way, are you busy today, Haruca-san?
Shopping?
When you're finished with that, let's go shopping together!
Okay?
What?
Not really... Well, I'll think of something once we get there.
There's still something you want?
I just went with you the other day.

Eba said she had something to do at home today.
Why don't you have anything to do?

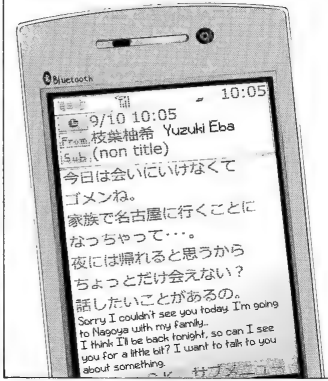
We can go to the amusement park or a karaoke box, then!
I just feel like cutting loose today!!
Hold on!


They're probably riding the bullet train together right now.
The bullet train?


I'm home alone.
I'm supposed to go to cram school this evening.

BLESSINGS
BZZZ BZZZ
ブルルル
ブルルル

N-Nagoya?


Bluetooth
10:05
9/10 10:05
From 枝葉柚希 Yuzuki Eba
Sub (non title)
今日は会いにいけなくて
ゴメンね。
家族で名古屋に行くことに
なっちゃって・・・。
夜には帰れると思うから
ちょっとだけ会えない？
話したいことがあるの。
Sorry I couldn't see you today. I'm going to Nagoya with my family.
I think I'll be back tonight, so can I see you for a little bit? I want to talk to you about something.

What?
Wh-What's she suddenly going there for... some kind of service?

...

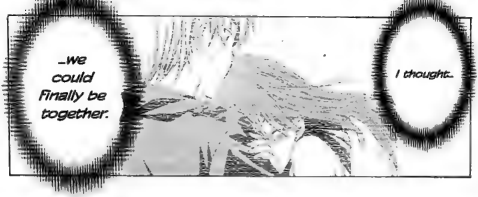
N-No, she only said she had something to do...
Did my sister not tell you anything?

Our family's moving...
...to Nagoya in two weeks.

The decision suddenly happened last week because of our Father's work.
It's pretty common among salary men.
The company will provide our housing.
They're going to see it today...
My sister wasn't happy about it at first.
She said she'd be lonely again.
But she can't help it because of our family's situation...
BA-DUMP
So she ended up accepting it.
Move...?
H-Hold on!!

You're kidding, right...?
You're just teasing me like you always do...
Why don't you ask my sister, then?!
She'll be back tonight!!
RATTLE
...!
I'm leaving.
I don't feel like hanging out anymore.
Hey!
CLICK

Just so you know...
...I'll be lonely, too.
BLESSINGS
CHAOS
SLAM
STEP
STEP
STEP
You can't mean it...
...



..we're moving back to long distance again..?

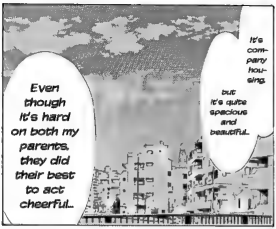
I don't want to do that anymore!!
ちょっとだけ会え
話したいことがあるの。
I want to talk to you about
something.
STEP!! STEP!! STEP!!
This time...
...I won't give up so easily.

Ah... Haruto-kun!
Eba...
Sorry for asking you to meet so late...
I had to talk to you about something today.
Um...
I heard from Rin-chan...
What...?
That you're...
moving...
That's it, right?

I-Is it true, then?
Oh…
I wanted to tell you myself.

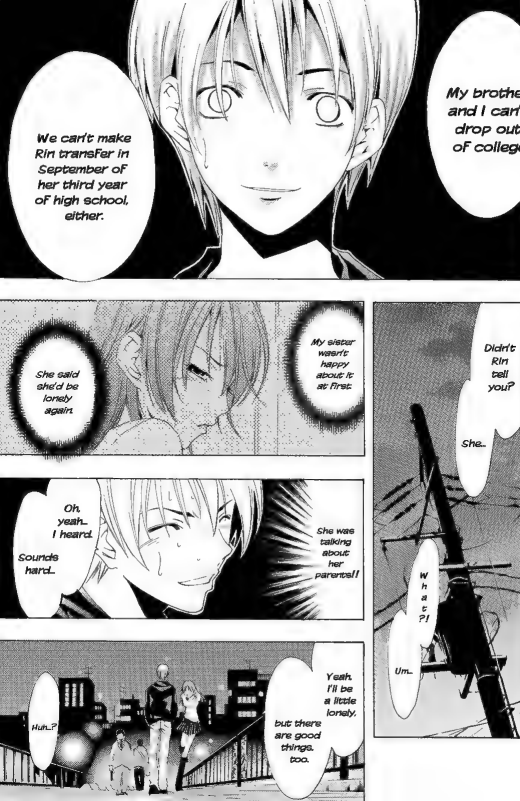
…

…Yeah.
We went to see the house today…


Even though it's hard on both my parents, they did their best to act cheerful…
It's company housing, but it's quite spacious and beautiful…

Yeah...
You can't...
...I can't be selfish and say that I don't want to move.
After seeing that...
Don't you make that face, too.
I can't help this.
Y-Yeah, but...
It's not as though we'll never see each other again.
STEP
That's why we decided to work together...

Rin and I...
...will live in Tokyo together!
...
What?
Rin really didn't want to be separated from the rest of the family and resisted, but...
...she gave in when Itsuki said he would stay, too...
Huh...
Wha...
You're staying in Tokyo?!
Yeah.
?


My brother and I can't drop out of college.
We can't make Rin transfer in September of her third year of high school, either.
My sister wasn't happy about it at first.
She said she'd be lonely again.
Didn't Rin tell you?
She...
What?!
Um...
Oh, yeah... I heard.
Sounds hard...
She was talking about her parents!
Huh...?
Yeah. I'll be a little lonely, but there are good things, too.

We can be together now...
...without worrying about a curfew.
Haruto-kun, you're smiling so much.
What are you thinking about?
I... I'm not thinking about anything!!
Ohh?
Ah...

#154: MOVING HELPER

Come on!!
Not there, Haruto-san!!
The bookshelf goes next to the TV!!
You'd better not damage the floor!
Oh, shut up, already.
IF you're going to complain, do it yourself.
I told you I hate doing this kind of thing.

Sorry for making you help us.
Not at all.

Besides, I helped you move.
You insulted my place and left!!

Itsuki-san, are you okay?
Don't you need to move yourself?
No, I'm already living in the dorms.
Ah...
I see.

...This place is huge.
It's nothing like my apart-ment.

Anyway, we're fine here. Why don't you go help Yuzuki? I'll take care of this.
Okay.

Ah... Haruto-kun, are you done helping Rin?
Yeah.
Hey...
Isn't that where the lace curtains go?
What?!
I can't believe I got it wrong again!
It's okay, I'll do it. Why don't you put some stuff away...
"TOUCH"

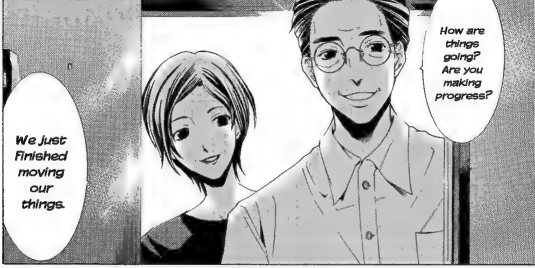
...Ah.

S-
Sorry...

W-
We're
not
flirting!!
That's
right!!
Our hands
just
brushed
against
each
other!!
I don't
care.
You're
such a
pain...

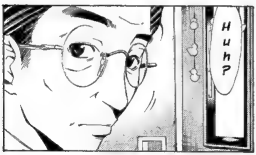
...!!
Excuse
me, but
if you
have time
to flirt,
can you
help me
instead?

ピンポーン
DING DONG


How are things going? Are you making progress?
We just finished moving our things.

Ah!

It's been a while since I last saw them...
Eba's parents...


Huh?

Dad, look! I worked really hard.
I moved all of this myself!
Ha ha, really? You've put everything away nicely.

He came to help me move.
He lives... nearby.
Ah...
Dad, this is Hanto-kun. He took care of me while I was in Hiroshima.
It's nice to see you again.
Ah...!
It's been a while.
Thanks. I'm sure Yuzuki must bother you all the time.
No! Not at all...
Thanks for the other day, too.
All three of our children went to stay with you in Hiroshima.
We wanted to go, too, but we were so busy...
I'm sorry.
It's all right! My parents were happy for all the company!!
That's good...
We'll be sure to stop by and thank them some-time.

Well, Yuzuki-chan, we need to head to Nagoya now...
Ah... Okay.
Look after Rin, okay?
We'll be all right. Itsuki's staying, too. Don't worry.
Dad,
I want to see the house in Nagoya.
Okay, okay. Why don't you come next time you're free?
We'll probably be back at the end of the month.
...
Okay.
Um...
Is something wrong?
No.
But...

You're still really polite...
...when you talk to your mom.

...Huh?
Yeah...

Huh.
...I see.

Well, Haruto-kun, look after them for us.
Huh...What?

It's not as though we don't get along, though.
It just became normal for us.

I'm relieved someone like you lives nearby.
Make sure Yuzuki and Rin keep their curfew.

Uh... Sure! I will!!
...?

Don't open the door for everyone who comes by, Yuzuki.
And it's dangerous at night, so don't go walking around by yourself.
Yeah, I'll be fine.
Also, you're the older sister, so make sure you look after Rin.
O... Okay.
I... I get it!!

Ah!
=

201
桐島

WHUMP
Ugh...
I'm exhausted. Moving two people's worth of stuff is a lot of work.
Thanks for coming. It was a huge help.

...It's kind of sad, though.
I feel like I lost my place to go home to.
I felt the same way at first, but you'll get used to it soon.

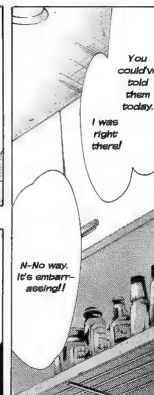
Anyway, are you sure you should be leaving Rin alone this late?
Are you sure she's not lonely by herself?
Lonely? She was so happy, she went to stay at a friend's place.
She was saying she can finally stretch her wings now.
F-- For the night?
So...
I'll be lonely, too...
After she said that, too. What a fickle girl...
...we can stay together all night.
...!

Who cares?
I'm a college student.
You can't!!
What...
...Ah!!
We can't do that! I promised your father!!
You can't break your curfew the very first day!!
Your father trusts me to be your boyfriend.
I can't betray him!
Well...
...Huh?
Um... He probably trusts you to be my friend... probably...
Um...
I haven't told him...

...that we're dating...
...What?

What do you mean, you haven't told him?
W-Wouldn't it be weird?
For me to suddenly announce to my parents that I have a boyfriend...

Are you saying it's embarrassing that you're dating me?!
CLATTER
That's not what I meant!! I mean introducing my boyfriend to my parents!!


You could've told them today. I was right there!
N-No way. It's embarr-assing!!

I could do it!!
Well, I can't!!

...
...
Well... Fine.
In any case, go home.
Oh, come on. Don't be mad.
...
I'm not mad.
Even if I'm just your friend, a promise is a promise!
TOUCH

...!?
Wha...
Would I do that to a friend?

I'm going home.
Sorry for bothering you.
Hey, wait...
You...
You can stay ten more minutes.
...
What? Don't you want me to go home?
Nope! One more minute or ten more minutes, it's still the same.
...
Y... You're right... Sorry...
You should go home.
I will.
STEP
...
So...

CONTINUED IN VOLUME 17

Kouji Seo
Shonen Magazine Comics
16
A town where you live